

The Church of God



Evangel



Vol. 39

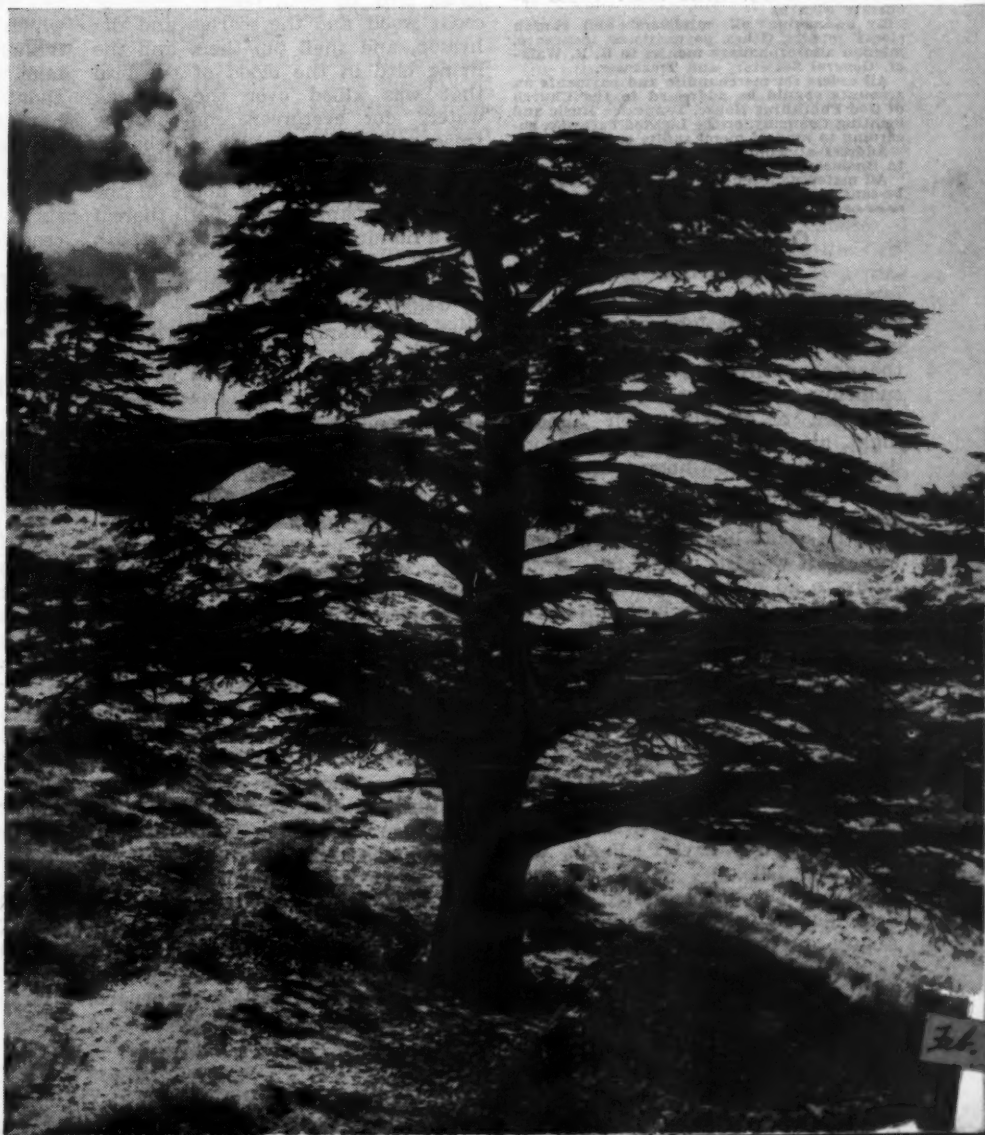
February 5, 1949

No. 47

RESOLUTIONS

Start anew this morning
to a higher, fairer creed;
dare to stand complaining
without neighbor's greed;
dare to sit repining while
his call is clear;
make no moment whining,
my heart shall know no fear;
ask sometimes about me for
things that merit praise;
search for hidden beauties
beyond the grumbler's gaze;
try to find contentment in
paths that I must tread;
dare to have resentment
no other moves ahead;
do not be swayed by envy when
his strength is shown;
do not deny his merit, but I'll
try to prove my own;
try to see the beauty spread
before me, rain or shine;
dare to preach your duty
be more concerned with

—Author Unknown.



34.5

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IMPORTANT

Mails are heavy. Avoid delay. Please cooperate with us.

By addressing all ministers' and church clerks' reports, tithes, payments on insurance, mission and orphanage monies to R. R. Walker, General Secretary and Treasurer.

All orders for merchandise and payments on accounts should be addressed to the Church of God Publishing House, Tennessee Music and Printing Company, or the Lighted Pathway, according to kind of merchandise ordered.

Address all complaints concerning business to Business Manager, A. M. Phillips.

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OBITUARY

DEMPSEY

Rev. C. W. Dempsey, pastor of the Church of God at Johnson City, Tennessee, passed away January 17, at the age of fifty-one years. He died suddenly of a heart attack. He preached a great sermon Sunday night, attended to his business Monday, and came home and had family worship. His wife especially noticed that in his prayer he told the Lord he would like to live until Jesus came if it was His will, if not he was ready to go at any time. He retired and slept just a few minutes. He woke up with a pain around his heart, and died at one o'clock.

The funeral service was conducted in the Johnson City church by Rev. A. V. Beaube, Rev. C. M. Newnan, and Rev. C. C. McAfee. The body was then taken to Anderson, South Carolina, where they had another funeral service in charge of Rev. Houston R. Morehead, Rev. Earl P. Paulk, and Rev. J. M. Kile.

Brother Dempsey received evangelistic license in the Church of God August 10, 1928, and on September 22, 1933, he was ordained bishop. In addition to his evangelistic work he pastored a number of churches in

South Carolina and Tennessee. His home going is a reminder to all of us ministers that the ministerial corps in glory from the Church of God is being increased all along.

Musician Available

I should like to work with a good evangelist, full time, as a musician. I play the piano, piano accordion, solo-vox, and the electric Hawaiian guitar. I am ready to travel anywhere.—T. C. Pierce, Best St., High Point, N. C., Phone 51240.

COVER PICTURE

The Hebrew word *erez*, invariably rendered "cedar" by the Authorized Version, stands for that tree in most of the passages where the word occurs. While the word is sometimes used in a wider sense, Lev. 14:6, "As for the living bird, he shall take it, and the cedar wood, and the scarlet, and the hyssop, and shall dip them and the living bird in the blood of the bird that was killed over the running water," for evergreen, cone-bearing trees, generally the cedar of Lebanon (*Cedrus libani*) is intended. 1 Kings 7:2, "He built also the house of the forest of Lebanon; the length thereof was a hundred cubits, and the breadth thereof fifty cubits, and the height thereof thirty cubits, upon four rows of cedar pillars, with cedar beams upon the pillars." 1 Kings 10:27, "And the king made silver to be in Jerusalem as stones, and cedars made he to be as the sycomore trees that are in the vale, for abundance." Psalm 92:12, "The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon." Song of Solomon 5:15, "His legs are as pillars of marble, set upon sockets of fine gold: his countenance is as Lebanon, excellent as the cedars." Isaiah 2:13, "And upon all the cedars of Lebanon, that are high and lifted up, and upon all the oaks of Bashan." Ezek. 31:3-6, "Behold, the Assyrian was a cedar in Lebanon with fair branches, and with a shadowing shroud, and of a high stature; and his top was among the thick boughs. The waters made him great, the deep set him up on high with her rivers running round about his plants, and sent out her little rivers unto all the trees of the field. Therefore his height was exalted above all the trees of the field, and his branches became long because of the multitude of waters, when he shot forth. All the fowls of heaven made their nests in his boughs, and under his branches did all the

beasts of the field bring forth their young, and under his shadow dwelt all great nations."

The wood is of a reddish color, of bitter taste and aromatic odor, offensive to insects, and very durable. The cedar is a type of the Christian, being evergreen, beautiful, aromatic, wide-spreading, slow-growing, long-lived and having many uses. As far as is at present known, the cedar of Lebanon is confined in Syria to one valley of the Lebanon range, viz., that of the Kedisha River, which flows from near the highest point of the range westward to the Mediterranean, and enters the sea at the port of Tripoli. The grove is at the very upper part of the valley, about fifteen miles from the sea, 6,500 feet above that level, and its position is moreover above that of all other arboreal vegetation. Dr. Leo Aulerind speaks of three groups which he visited in 1884. The famous B'Sherreh grove is three quarters of a mile in circumference, and contains about 400 trees, young and old. Perhaps a dozen of these are very old. The greatest height of any of the trees, he says, is about eighty-two feet; the majority are between forty-six and seventy-two feet. Some exceed fifty feet in girth.

KENTUCKY STATE CAMP MEETING AND CONVENTION

June 27 Through July 3, 1949
Lexington, Kentucky

KENTUCKY STATE PRAYER CONFERENCE

March 1, 2, 3, Somerset, Kentucky
Service begins at 7 p. m., March 1. We are expecting one of our general officials to be with us.

DISTRICT CONVENTIONS

Rockport	March 5
Bowling Green	March 7
Crescent Springs	March 11, 12
Louisville	March 14, 15
Lexington	March 18, 19
Richmond	March 18, 19
Ravenna	March 22, 23
Catlettsburg	March 25, 26
Hazard	March 28, 29
Blue Diamond	March 30, 31
Somerset	April 1
Corbin	April 4
Middlesboro	April 6
Manchester	April 8
McVeigh	April 11, 12
East Jenkins	April 13, 14
Loyall	April 18, 19
Cawood	April 20, 21
Harlan	April 22, 23

—L. H. Aultman, State Overseer

Editorials...

ON GIVING

In the light of God's giving, how little of giving do we possess! We give our lives but keep our comforts. We give our hearts but let them wander carelessly in vain pursuits. We give our time but occupy it with trivialities that the gift is useless for all practical purposes. We speak of giving all our reserve rights that practically annul the contract, and then we wonder why God does not hear and answer prayer.

Time Is God's

Time is money—we have no right to waste it. Time is power—we have no right to dissipate it. Time is influence—we have no right to throw it away. Time is life—we must value it greatly. Time is God's—He gives it to us for a purpose. Time is a sacred trust—we must answer for every moment. Time is preparation for eternity—we must treasure it.

Money

A person's spiritual condition, as well as possibilities, may be improved or hindered by the possession, or the lack, of money. It is true that the young ruler turned from the Lord Jesus rather than dispose of his earthly wealth; that the soul of the rich man in Luke 12 was required of him during the night he was planning his expansion program; and that the rich man in Luke 16 lifted up his eyes to hell, yet money, property, nor wealth, in any other substance alone, determined their sad plight.

James tells us that it is "the love of money that is the root of all evil." So after all, it is not the possession of money, little or much, or the lack of money, altogether, that damns a person.

It is one thing to consider the worldly rich and unsparingly condemn them as greedy, dishonest, conning capitalists, and another to think of the professing Christians, who, like Ananias and Sapphira, would even dare to lie to man and God about their financial status. The question is, how many funerals would be conducted at once throughout Christendom, or just the Church of God, should God lift His mercy and kill every person who by fact, or pretense,

is lying to God, their pastor, and fellow members, in stating that they are paying tithes, or giving in offerings as they should.

What am I driving at? Simply this: it is possible for a person to become so avaricious, covetous, and bent upon making and saving money that in skimping and bending every effort possible to accumulate wealth, he will become so completely overwhelmed by love for gain that he loses love for God, the church, and his neighbors, and if that is continued, the person, though not stricken dead, will nevertheless die under the wrath of God.

An evangelist was conducting a meeting and on the way to be guest for dinner with one of the members of the church, he saw a mansion with a lovely lawn, and he said, "Isn't that a beautiful home? It must have cost a fortune." "More than that," his host said, "it cost the man who built it his soul." Then he told the evangelist how that at one time the builder of the mansion was an ardent Sunday School teacher, superintendent, and official in the church where the evangelistic campaign was now on, but he became a prosperous businessman and gradually dropped out of church work. Then he attended only occasionally. Soon after he moved into the palatial home, he was stricken with a dreaded disease and died without a testimony. Money is essential only as a medium of exchange for legitimate and necessary things of life. No one should fall in love with it, for when we do, it becomes "filthy lucre."

Trashy Literature

Literary standards have fallen to a new low during the past few years. A recent issue of a trade paper, *The Retail Bookseller*, confidently predicts that a certain novel will be a best-seller because "it has everything that made its predecessor sell: horror, sex, madness, and depravity—all handled with dignity and restraint." The Word of God warns that "in the last days" men shall be "unholy, without natural affection." 2 Tim. 3:1, 2. There can be no doubt that the end of the age is near. It will give place to a better, purer age when Christ shall reign and trashy literature will surely be prohibited. — *Pentecostal Evangel*.

What Ignorance

A Bible test given 18,434 Southern high-school pupils recently revealed

that 16,000 could not name three Old Testament prophets; 10,000 could not name three disciples of Jesus; 12,000 could not name the four Gospels. According to Dr. U. W. Leavell, of Peabody, 66 per cent were not enrolled in any Sunday School. The average Sunday School attendance in the area was 50 per cent of its enrollment. Thus less than 17 per cent of the population was receiving religious instruction.—*Pentecostal Evangel*.

Theodore Roosevelt's Nine Reasons for Going to Church

1. In this actual world, a churchless community, a community where men have abandoned and scoffed at or ignored their religious needs, is a community on the rapid down grade.

2. Church work and church attendance mean the cultivation of the habit of feeling some responsibility for others.

3. There are enough holidays for most of us. Sundays differ from other holidays in the fact that there are fifty-two of them every year. Therefore, on Sundays go to church.

4. Yes, I know all the excuses. I know that one can worship the Creator in a grove of trees, or by a running brook, or in a man's own house, just as well as in a church. But I also know, as a matter of cold fact, the average man does not thus worship.

5. He may not hear a good sermon at church. He will hear a sermon by a good man who, with his good wife, is engaged all the week in making hard lives a little easier.

6. He will listen to and take part in reading some beautiful passages from the Bible. And if he is not familiar with the Bible, he has suffered a loss.

7. He will take part in singing some good hymns.

8. He will meet and nod or speak to good, quiet neighbors. He will come away feeling a little more charitable toward all the world, even toward those excessively foolish young men who regard church-going as a soft performance.

9. I advocate a man's joining in church work for the sake of showing his faith by his works.

Increases in "Evangel" subscription for two weeks—six hundred and eighty-six.

How to Be Happy and Live a Successful Christian Life in 1949

By REV. MANUEL F. CAMPBELL,

(This New Year's message was presented, Sunday morning, January 2, through the Kenton County Ministerial Association, over Radio Station WCPO, Cincinnati, Ohio.)

As we stand on the threshold of 1949, our minds are filled with many questions relative to the future of nations as well as individuals. As we attempt to gaze into the future, even the most penetrating vision and men with brilliant minds fall short because the future is shrouded by mysteries. It will necessitate the gradual process of time and developments to reveal and unfold the events of the new year. However, beyond the realm of speculation we may be assured of one thing; that is, people will crave to be happy. Thousands and thousands of dollars will be spent this year in the pursuit of happiness. But, my friends, happiness doesn't always depend on outward conditions; it depends greatly, however, on inward conditions. A person could behold the surging waters of the great Niagara Falls, view with amazement the Carlsbad Cavern, visit the flower gardens and the beauty spots of the world, and still be very unhappy. Happiness is something which many do not have, yet all people of all nations do earnestly seek for it.

In the work of my profession, a minister of the gospel, I have heard many, many stories of unhappiness. A man in West Virginia confessed to me that he killed another man because he defiled the sanctity of his home. A woman wept because her husband drank intoxicants and beat her severely. A little girl cried because her father beat her continually for her attending church services. On and on there are stories of woe and unhappiness. In the beginning, however, these things were not intended. When God formed man of the dust of the earth, breathed into his face life, He made man to be good. He made man

to be happy. Man is the crowning creation of a holy God. God made man a worshipping being but not a being to be worshiped. But man sinned. He transgressed the law of God. Man became a sinner. The subsequent results of that sin, even though it was committed centuries ago, finds continual expression in the many penal institutions, brothel houses, and graveyards.

Man has made tremendous strides, in many directions, since the dawn of the human family. He has discovered how to give wings to his work and sail above the clouds. He can but whisper and be heard around the world. The air is filled with his speech and music. Through his power the world has shrunk and bows before him. He can convert swamps into mighty cities and blast them into bits at pleasure. MAN, THOU ART GREAT! Admire him for his greatness and his ingenuity. Be moved by his wisdom and his stupidity. Weep over his pathetic plight, his misery, and unhappiness, which sin has brought down on his head.

Considering the forces which man has at his disposal, we think, "Man, why aren't you happy? What has marred your happiness? What is the root of your unhappiness?" Then we analyze his situation. We consider his relationship with God. It is then we begin to understand. God made the fish to swim in the water; the birds to perch in the trees and fly through the air. Reverse the order. Put the bird in the water, the fish in the air; the results will be death for both. You may ask, "But what has this to do with man?" Simply this. Man seeks to live his life independently of God. This is a fatal impossibility. Man has the know-how to build powerful machinery, but to be happy, he must be willing to bow his proud heart before God in humility.

If you really desire to be happy this year, consider and respond to this sincere, prayerful ministerial exhortation.



Manuel F. Campbell,
Pastor at Erlanger, Ky.

tation. This is a sure formula for happiness: GET RIGHT WITH YOUR MAKER. When? The urgency of the appeal and the brevity of life bid you accept Christ today. RIGHT NOW! Resolve to live for God in 1949. The Rose of Sharon expressed her tenderness to a weary world of sinners by saying, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." The Holy Ghost moved on a saint and he wrote, "Casting all your cares upon him; for he careth for YOU."

Several years ago, while a sailor in the U. S. Navy, I was very unhappy in soul. Being in this condition, I timidly approached a preacher with this personal question, "How can a young man enjoy life and be happy?" "Select a pretty girl and dance with her," he said. What ill advice from a minister! Many have gone from the dance hall brokenhearted. I didn't follow his advice, because my soul was troubled for God. My little mother, down in Tennessee, was praying for me, and God was answering her prayers. I accepted my mother's God and found true happiness, and so can you. I believe the message of the story of the cross because I am personally convinced of the glorious results any sin-scarred, sin-marred, sin-tortured soul will experience in his own heart if he will accept the Lord Jesus Christ.

The way to live a successful Christian life in 1949 is to live like Christ. A man told me of working near

(Continued on page 15)

Foreign Missions

All the World—
Every Creature

J. H. WALKER
Executive Missions Secretary

From the Church of God in Guatemala

Dear Brother Walker:

Christian greetings in the name of the Man of Galilee!

I have just finished my first Christmas on the mission field. It was a momentous occasion to me, for it was my first Christmas away from the home fires. During my college days I was allowed to spend the holidays in which we thanked God for His most wonderful gift, even Jesus Christ, with Mother and Dad and little Brother. However, both they and I were happy and contented, because our separation was to see souls saved through His power, and we knew that He Himself said: "He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me," Matthew 11: 37a, 38.

One of the things which helped make this Christmas away from home and in a foreign land one of the happiest ones I have had was the receipt of your letter of the 13th with check, which let me know that either my Secretary and Board, nor my Church had forgotten me as I worked for them for Christ's cause. Please receive my sincere and heartfelt thanks.

Always remember us in prayer, for only through your prayer and your help can we go forward on the field. We are consecrated to the Lord and let the Lord always lead you, for as long as we have a Spirit-filled and Spirit-led Secretary, Board, and Church behind us we know His will will always be done.

With Christian love and sincere thanks, I am sincerely in Him,
(Signed) Wayne McAfee.

Rejoicing in the Work

Twenty-nine years ago, I entered into the field of the Lord. With greater courage I am rejoicing in the

work which is set before me, praising Him for the privilege of being a soldier of the cross, thanking Him for souls He has given me, and that many of them have become workers in the vineyard of the Lord. At present I am doing a rural work, and little by little we are marching onward and upward for the Lord.—Emeterio C. Mariano, Baruyen Bangul, Ilocos Norte.

Dear Brother Walker:

I'm so happy to tell you the news of the recovery of my husband's eye. I want to thank God for answering prayer, and I also want to thank you and the Church of God saints in general for your prayers.

If you remember, Brother Walker, I wrote you a letter requesting you to pray for my husband, who was to undergo a cataract operation. Well, thank the Lord, the operation was successful. He had the operation October 19, at the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Hospital, Cliftonforge, Virginia, by Doctor Wysor, who was very kind to him. Tonight my husband can see well out of that eye, and I'm very happy to tell you he never had any ill reactions whatever. Doctor Wysor said he was an unusual patient. I felt then that it was God answering prayer.

Also, I sent Brother Jernigan, at the General Assembly, a special delivery letter, and requested prayer. I wrote to several other ministers and churches. Reverend Byington, of the Wyandott, Michigan, Church, anointed a handkerchief for him. When the doctor lifted the cataract off my husband's eye, he said he could see the big lights over his head. Oh, thank the Lord for His mercy.

When my husband was in the operating room, I was waiting for his return. It seemed that while I was praying, I could imagine seeing the

dear Lord's hand guiding the doctor's hand.

Too, I must add this. My daughter, Dorothy Leedy, is now in Cleveland, Tennessee, attending Bible School. I am so thankful for this. At one time our pastor, Brother Webb, of Middlesboro, Kentucky, asked me to sign a paper for the buying of Lee College. I remember I told Brother Webb that I would sign it, but I didn't think any of my children would ever be able to go to the College. Brother Webb told me to have faith, that God was able to supply our needs and make a way when there seemed to be no way.

Brother Walker, pray for my son. He is seventeen years old, and is going to high school. He is a good boy; he does not smoke or drink, and is good to work and save, but he needs to be converted. My husband is still unsaved. For once in his life he knelt at an altar in the Church of God, Catlettsburg, Kentucky, on our way to the hospital.—Mrs. Jennie Leedy.

SMILES

By Elva Horsman

*Smiles are rays from heaven,
Brightening human ways,
Smiles make glad and joyous,
Dreary, work-filled days.
Smiles are golden sunshine,
Driving out the gloom,
Smiles bring healing magic,
To every darkened room;
Smiles are rarest treasures,
Jewels from up above,
Revealing souls of greatness,
Hearts of warmth and love;
Smiles banish tears and sadness,
Let others know you care,
So SMILE today with gladness,
Spread joy everywhere.*

MY LEGACY

When I am gone, not to return,
I'd like to leave behind
Not poignant grief for my demise,
But comfort there to find;
Because I'd lived a joyous life,
Been friendly, helpful, kind;
And through the many years I'd
found
My clouds all silver lined.
Much more than jewels, lands and
gold,
I'd like to leave behind
Dear, fragrant memories of me,
In someone's heart and mind.

—Florence Scripps Kellogg.

Our Boys and Girls . . .

CHURCH OF GOD ORPHANAGE

WILLIAM F. DYCH, Superintendent

Montgomery Avenue

Cleveland, Tennessee

Miscellaneous Donations for October, November, December, 1948

The following is our quarterly report of packages sent to the Orphanage. This report does not include packages mailed to individual children. We sincerely appreciate your fine response during the months of October, November, and December.

ALABAMA

Piedmont, Jeannie Pierce, used clothing
Fruithurst, Mrs. W. F. Gentry, towels and toys
Red Bay, Oak Grove Church of God, material and dresses
Krafton, Rev. C. H. Spencer, used clothing and nuts
Pratt City, Mrs. B. A. Crosell, 2 coats
Birmingham, Mrs. C. R. Bookout, used clothing

ARKANSAS

Fort Smith, Mr. W. G. Heming, candy
Searcy, H. L. Berry, nuts, candy, fruit, used clothing
Lamar, Rev. E. Long, fruit, toys, used clothing

CALIFORNIA

San Diego, Mrs. Vera McLain, used clothing
Indio, Rev. Thomas Griffith, 7 cases tangerines and dates

FLORIDA

Arcadia, L. W. W. B., used clothing
Cocoa, Name Unknown, 10 bu. fruit
Arcadia, W. W. Holton, 1 boy's new shirt
Venice, Church of God, 2 crates fruit
Madison, Mrs. A. H. Hemphill, used clothing
Lake Worth, Mrs. J. W. Roach, candy
Naples, Church of God, gifts and toys
Winter Haven, Name Unknown, 3 crates, 1 bu. fruit
Wimauma, Name Unknown, 5 bu. fruit
Ruskin, Rev. N. E. Law, 2 bu. fruit
Lake Alfred, Mr. W. G. Carroll, 2 crates fruit
Ruskin, Church of God, 6 crates tomatoes
East Brandenton, Church of God, 2 bu. oranges
Jacksonville, Mrs. T. H. Thompson, 3 bu. oranges
Montecello, Church of God, 1 bx. candy
Lakeland, H. L. Judd, 2 bu. fruit
Lake Wales, Rev. W. B. Sumner, 4 bu. fruit

Clearwater, Mrs. J. L. Blenton, bx. gifts
Mulberry, Mrs. L. L. Harvey, 1 crate oranges

GEORGIA

Sandersville, Mrs. A. E. Smith, used clothing
Brunswick, Mrs. M. Dedge, bx. toys
Fitzgerald, Church of God, 1 sack pecans
Fitzgerald, Church of God, 1 bx. school supplies
Carrollton, Church of God, oranges, apples, candy, canned goods
Elberton, Mr. J. W. Heaton, 1 bx. gifts and groceries
Elberton, Mr. J. W. Heaton, 1 bx. Albany, Mrs. W. M. Wadsworth, 1 bx. Albany, Mrs. Thelma Bloodworth, 1 sack pecans

ILLINOIS

Johnson City, Mrs. Allie Boyce, used clothing
Edwardsville, M. J. Upton, used clothing
Lawrenceville, Y. P. E. Class, 1 bx. of gifts
Carriers Mills, Mr. P. F. Fritz, 1 gift

INDIANA

Evansville, Addie Duer, used clothing
Tipton, Ruby Brewer, 1 bx. gifts

IOWA

Lynnville, Gerard Rhoda, used clothing

KANSAS

Cherokee, Nellie M. Trosch, used clothing

KENTUCKY

Millstone, Mrs. Kelly Back, used clothing
Covington, Mrs. C. B. DuBusk, used clothing
Louisville, Mrs. D. C. Rayhill, used clothing
Lovely, Lydia H. Workman, used clothing

LOUISIANA

Bogalusa, Name Unknown, used clothing

MAINE

West Enfield, Church of God, used clothing

MICHIGAN

Stanwood, L. W. W. B., used clothing
Biteley, Mrs. A. H. Cousineau, 1 bx. toys
Grand Ledge, D. D. Zimmerman, used

clothing

Lincoln Port, Mrs. V. W. Haskin, used clothing

Ferndale, Church of God, 1 Christmas bx. and candy

Munising, Fred Zanklies, used clothing
Le Roy, Mrs. Leo Green, used clothing

Big Rapids, Rev. L. Maquire, 1 bx. of toys

MISSISSIPPI

Stonefield, Church of God, used clothing

Eupora, Mrs. J. L. Burton, Christmas gifts

N. Shady Grove, Church of God, used clothing

Laurel, Church of God, numerous gifts for children, candy, nuts, fruit

Mt. Zion, Church of God, used clothing

Booneville, Mrs. Milton Strange, used clothing

Ellisville, Polly Lewis, 1 bx. of toys

Gulfport, Church of God, 1 bx. of gifts

Ellisville, W. B. Conn, 1 gift

Ellisville, W. G. Pippen, 1 gift

Ellisville, Polly Lewis, gifts

Richton, Joyce Ivy, 1 gift

Coffeerville, Estelle Holloway, used clothing

West Point, Rev. W. L. Sharp, 1 Christmas package

Ellisville, Ruby Little, 1 bx. of gifts

Richton, Mrs. Ila Barker, gifts

Ellisville, Carolyn Wadsworth, 1 bx. of gifts

Grenada, L. W. W. B., used clothing

Laurel, Cecil Knight, used clothing

Morgantown, Church of God, new and used clothing

MISSOURI

Billings, Mary Letts, 1 bx. candy

Dudley, Name Unknown, Christmas gifts

MONTANA

Harlowton, Church of God, used clothing, 10 bxs. candy

NEW JERSEY

Millville, Church of God, used clothing

Absecon, Mrs. John Josephsen, used clothing

NORTH DAKOTA

Minot, Church of God, used clothing

OHIO

Norwood, Reverend Florence, 1 bx. of toys and gifts

Orient, Earl Bunfield, shirts, sweater and nuts

Findlay, Church of God, 1 bx. of toys

Warren, L. W. W. B., new and used clothing

Columbus, Church of God, 1 Christmas package

Norwood, Homer Davis, used clothing

OKLAHOMA

Hickory, N. D. Shrun, used clothing

arko, Church of God, 1 bx. of toys
 Church of God, candy, nuts, toys,
 new and used clothing
 say, Mrs. F. A. Miller, 1 bx. of toys
PENNSYLVANIA
 ion, Lourena Moreland, gift bx.
 adelphia, Leila Worley, 1 gift
 ough, Church of God, 1 carton of
 Clark Bars
 well, Church of God, Christmas
 gifts
 Union, Allenport Church of God,
 1 bx. of Christmas gifts
SOUTH DAKOTA
 re, Mrs. H. Rasmussen, used
 clothing
 mon, Beginners Sunday School
 Class, pillow cases
 mon, Church of God, toys for
 Christmas
 ridge, Rev. D. Green, used clothing
 and gifts
SOUTH CAROLINA
 reenwood, Mrs. Findlay, used
 clothing
 reenville, Mrs. W. M. Peschi, 50
 puzzles
 icksburg, Ammie Peeler, used
 clothing
 reenville, Edna Haney, 2 bxs. of toys
 cher, Mrs. R. L. Cole, 1 bx. of toys
 artanburg, Margaret Jowls, 1 bx. of
 toys
 rt Mill, Mrs. J. H. Perry, 1 bx. of toys
 ando, Church of God, 1 bx. of toys
 reenville, Sunday School Class No.
 23, 1 bx. of gifts
 reenville, Mrs. Edna Haney, 1 wagon
 easter, M. D. Sutherland, 1 bx. of
 gifts
 eat Falls, Church of God, 1 bx. of
 gifts
 ilion, Rev. H. Douglas, new clothing
 aurens, Church of God, 3 bx. used
 clothing
 erokee Falls, A. O. Sutton, 1 bx.
TENNESSEE
 eveland, Mrs. Hughes, used clothing
 ynton, Mrs. Oscar Brown, used
 clothing
 eveland, Lois and Wilma Dych, used
 clothing
 eveland, Mrs. Kinser, 2 coats
 rierville, Church of God, used
 clothing
 oyal Blue, Mrs. W. E. Onkst, used
 clothing
 oxville, Nancy Hicks, Christmas
 gifts
 Chattanooga, Church of God, 394
 prs. of socks
 ashville, Church of God, new ma-
 terial, used clothing, toys, and candy
WASHINGTON
 eattle, Name Unknown, gifts
 eattle, Margaret France, 1 bx. toys

TEXAS

Seabrook, Opal Ferguson, candy, nuts,
 toys, used clothing

Paris, E. F. Dale, used clothing

NORTH CAROLINA

Princeton, Bradley N. Hinton, used
 clothing

Henderson, Mrs. John Parrott, used
 clothing

Goldsboro, Mrs. M. Boyette, 1 coat

Pinola, Church of God, used clothing

VIRGINIA

Staunton, Church of God, 1 bx. of toys

28th and Omakondro Ave., Church of

God, used clothing and gifts

Newport News, Church of God, 1 bx.
 of gifts

Norfolk, Church of God, 1 bx.

WEST VIRGINIA

Williamsburg, Sarah Rudy, used
 clothing

Smithers, Sunday School, candy

Bluefield, M. E. Owenby, used clothing

Verdunville, H. W. Carter, used
 clothing

Glenfork, Church of God, 1 large bx.
 of candy

East Bank, Church of God, 2 bxs. toys

Logan, Sunday School, 1 bx of toys

Iaeger, Edward Mallony, toys and
 gifts

Bristol, Clarksburg Y. P. E., 1 bx. of
 toys and gifts

Peach Creek, Mr. J. C. Jeffries, 1 trunk
 full of toys

Logan, Sunday School, Christmas toys
UTAH

Hepler, W. R. Byrge, 1 bx. of new
 clothing

WISCONSIN

Madison, Mrs. Charles Hines, used
 clothing and gifts

ADDRESS UNKNOWN

Mr. John Bark, used clothing

Carl Terpstra, 1 bx. of Christmas gifts

Paul Erby, 1 gift

A Yielded Life to God

By Nadyne Clouse

Jeremiah 18:1-6

A yielded life to God is a life lived so close to His presence that you know His will and humbly and willingly do it although you know it will mean suffering on your part, whether in body, soul, mind, or spirit. The reason some can gladly yield to God's plan is, because in the severest suffering with Christ, deep down in their souls there is a great joy—a joy which can be obtained in no other way nor under any other circumstance, a joy which comes from the consolation that you suffer not in vain, for you have that within you which tells you of a victory that lies ahead. In no way are we enabled to know Christ in the fellowship of His sufferings except to live that submissive life to God.

It is one thing to be in the divine will of God and another to be in the permissive will of God; it is an awful thing to be out of the will of God. You may ask, "How do we get into the will of God?" The first thing to do to get into the will of God is to draw nigh unto God and He will draw nigh unto you, then consecrate your life to His purpose and plan for you, and oh, what peace, joy and fellowship there is when you attain the perfect will!

The reason many people never reach the perfect will of God is because they never consecrate their lives or

talents. They draw near to God, that is true, but they stop there. They are not willing to pay the price God asks of them to have His perfect favor. They go along satisfied to skim over the surface of spiritual things and receive a vague idea of the sufferings of Christ, persecutions, etc., with no knowledge of the deeper spiritual things of God. They are too carnal in their choice and are satisfied with their being in the permissive will of the Lord.

There are many Christians today who are very light and chaffy, and by their dress and conduct make a very poor impression on the world as being Christians. I'm not throwing off on anyone; I'm just telling you the truth, and you know it. It makes us wonder where these people will be when the storm comes. Will they be like the chaff, blown away by the wind? God deals and deals with them, trying to persuade them over and over to be more like Him, but blindly they go on fighting against His Spirit instead of yielding to it. It is a sad state, but there is only one conclusion, "He, that being often reprov'd hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy," Prov. 29:1. There is a line which God Himself has drawn and He alone knows when a man goes beyond that mark, so it

(Continued on page 15)



Paul's way of handling serpents

Snake-Handling

By REV. R. W. HARRIS
PASTOR, CHURCH OF GOD
COMBS, KY.

Question: Is the modern practice of snake-handling, as preached, conducted, and practiced by some religious groups, Biblical and right?



1. The modern practice of snake-handling is indulged by the apprehension of snakes of different kinds, usually copperheads and rattlesnakes, putting them in boxes with screens over a portion of the top, with a lid and a padlock on the box. They are hauled around in automobiles, sometimes with loudspeakers, advertising snake-handling services to be conducted in certain places and at certain times. The group sings, prays, shouts, and handles snakes. Sometimes, and that very frequently, if the snakes are fresh and retain an unconquered spirit, the handlers are bitten, swell up with poison, suffer intense pain, often requiring the attention of doctors and even amputation of fingers, hands, or arms. It is not an infrequent occurrence for those bitten to die from the poison of the bite.

2. The results of this current practice of snake-handling do not end in the mere physical suffering, sickness, and sometimes death of the victims. Other and more serious results may be listed thus: the reproach, criticism, ridicule, and destruction of sinners' faith in the doctrines of holiness, sanctification, and the baptism of the Holy Ghost. The world calls it every kind of vulgar names, thinks the proponents of such a doctrine are "weak-minded, crazy, foolish, silly, and even devil-possessed." Other results are that the followers of such a religion are obsessed with the erro-

neous idea that snake-handling is the thing of paramount importance in their religion. They don't assume the responsibilities of orphan homes, the support and care of old worn-out ministers, institutions of religious training, the work of foreign missions, nor the care of widows. They do not pay tithes. They have no system of organization and government, both of which God's Word teaches. They are guilty of becoming victims of delusion to the extent of thinking that noises, commotion, and shouts are the greatest and truest signs of the presence of God, His spirit, and His power in a service.

Is This Practice Biblical and Right?

1. The proponents and followers of this practice rely upon Mark 16:15-20, "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen."

The marginal references on the phrase "speak with new tongues," take us to Acts 2:4; 10:46; 19:6; and 1 Cor. 12:10, where the miraculous baptism of the Holy Ghost was received by people and witnessed by the speaking of new languages. The proponents of snake-handling will accept that hook, line, sinker, and pole.

The marginal reference on the phrase "take up serpents" takes us to Acts 28:5, where Paul was accidentally bitten by a "viper" while putting some wood on a fire. The account expressly states that Paul "shook off the beast into the fire, and felt no harm. Howbeit they (the barbarians) looked when he should have swollen, or fallen down dead suddenly; but after they had looked a great while, and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds, and said that he was a god."

2. The results of Paul's handling a serpent according to the will of God were to Paul's credit and God's glory. His hand did not swell; he did not get sick; his reputation did not suffer because of his boastings and willing, willful, previously advertised snake show. He did not drop down dead suddenly, neither did he feel any harm. He did not proclaim his super righteousness, his own power and glory, nor did he indulge the experience to prove to people that he was a man of God. This, I say, was God's order and system of snake-handling, the results of which were to God's glory. I challenge any snake-handling preacher or any of his followers to show me or tell me of one Bible instance of Jesus carrying a serpent of serpents with Him to prove His deity. I challenge them to point out even one instance of Christ's apostles carrying about serpents to prove their

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aintliness. I challenge them to point out more than the one instance of Paul's handling a snake, which experience was altogether accidental and beyond Paul's previous knowledge. They can't do it!

What, Then, Does the Scripture Mean?

1. I am now beginning just exactly what most people want to know. You cannot avoid agreeing with what I have already said about snake-handling, but your concern is, "What does it mean?"

Paul told Timothy to study that he might be able to "rightly divide the word of truth." There must be no contradiction of scriptural interpretations. There must be a harmonizing, proper application, and consideration of all Bible quotations relating to any subject.

God's Word contains thousands of promises of care, protection, and benediction to God's children. Every promise written in God's Book is made on condition. God does His part as a result of man's doing his part. For instance, God has promised food and raiment to His children, but not on conditions of our tempting Him or challenging Him to live up to His promise even while we sleep and sit around the house doing nothing. We must do our part.

Satan, the same devil that hinders the cause of God by misapplying and misinterpreting the snake-handling question, tried the same trick on Jesus Christ. He found a scripture which said, "He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee; and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone." The devil took Jesus to the pinnacle of the Temple, and did not say, "If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down from hence," and quoted God's promise of His angels bearing Him up to keep Him from being hurt. But Jesus was wise enough to know that a willful indulgence in that which was sure to injure Him would be tempting God, and He unhesitatingly told the devil that it is also written, "Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God." A promise of divine care and protection does not entitle any snake-handler to a right to tempt God by imposing upon Him unnecessary responsibilities. God promised, also, that man would be the boss and have dominion over all creatures of His creation, but that doesn't mean that I can walk without fear into a den of lions and expect God to protect me from injury;

no, not one bit more than I can remain in the rain and expect God to keep me from getting wet.

Jesus emphasized salvation and healing, Christian love and service. Some people emphasize snake-handling. It is their "hobbyhorse" and they ride it seven days a week. They like snake-handling so well that they eat that for breakfast, dinner and supper. Yes, and they rejoice in that they are able to handle snakes. Seldom, if ever, do we hear of any healings. When considering the size of the denomination of followers, one is convinced that there aren't many being saved by their efforts. Salvation is not so important to them as their handling of serpents.

Jesus sent out seventy men to preach the gospel, heal the sick, cast out devils, give sight to the blind and speech to the dumb, and even spoke of giving life to the dead. At such a time, their doing those things in the name of Jesus meant perils and dangers innumerable, but Jesus promised divine protection. He soon saw their return, whereupon they rejoiced, say-



ing, "Lord, even the devils are subject to us through thy name." He replied, "I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven. Behold I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven." Here again, the marginal reference takes us to Acts 28:5 where Paul was given power to escape injury by his being accidentally bitten by the viper while placing wood on the fire. That experience of Paul's is the only Bible account of the fulfillment of the scriptural quotation "they shall take up serpents," and treading on serpents and scorpions.

I declare without fear that the present doctrine and system of snake-handling, as practiced by people over the country, is an insult to God, a reproach to the cause of Christ, a burden to the hearts and lives of real Christians who must suffer the reproach for the things practiced by people who are without knowledge of the Bible's true meaning on the subject of handling serpents. "In this

rejoice not," said Jesus, but snake-handlers do rejoice in their snake-handling.

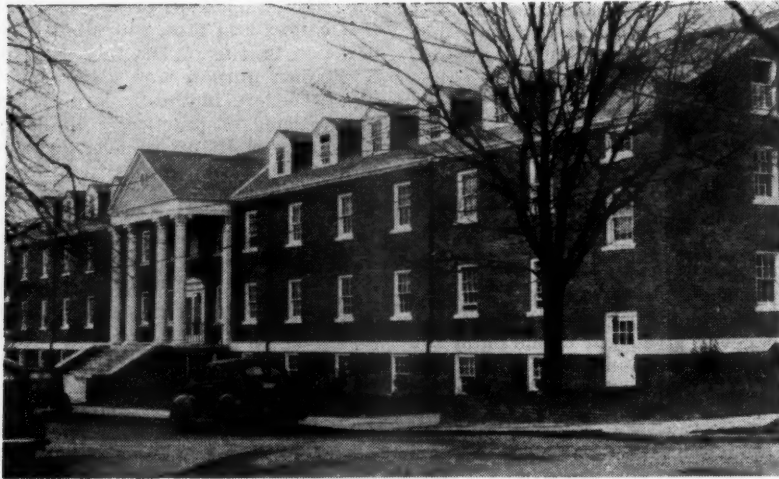
You ask, "Don't you believe in snake-handling?" Yes, I believe God has promised divine protection from swelling, death, harm, and injury in the handling of serpents, provided God causes and brings about the experience to one of His followers for God's own purpose and glory; but I do not believe in the modern system and method of practice. I challenge the followers of this wind of doctrine to prove by the Bible that the present system and method of conduct in the ranks of the followers of snake-handling is Biblical and right. I challenge them to prove that it is for God's glory, the salvation of souls, the progress of the work of Christ, or that it has any points of advantage whatsoever, so long as it is conducted in the way they do.

I conclude by saying that I am not against the snake-handlers, but against the error of their ways. I love their souls. I am for them, but against error. I desire to help, not hinder. I want to be a blessing, not a curse. Again I say, God's promises of divine protection and care are conditional promises. He said He would go with us always, even to the end of the world, but He did not obligate Himself to go with us into places and in the doing of things that He has commanded us to stay out of and not do. He promised overcoming grace for every temptation, but also told us to "shun the very appearance of evil." We have our part to perform.

In the 3d chapter of Genesis we have an account of the fall of man and the part the serpent played in the deception and fall. The serpent was devil-possessed, and the devil through the serpent beguiled, deceived, and lied to Eve, and caused her to lose her position of favor with God. Following the fall, God pronounced a curse upon the serpent, putting enmity between it and the woman, and between its seed and her seed. He said man would bruise the serpent's head, and the serpent would bruise man's heel. I've always felt that enmity between me and the serpent. I'm its enemy. It is my enemy. It will bite me. I will kill it. God placed that enmity between us, and I am a snake-killer not a snake-handler. I shall bruise its head until it is dead, dead, dead! If it gets me at all, I hope it will be by the heel—not the nose, face, neck, or hands.

Echoes from LEE College . . .

MEMORIAL HALL



This is the dormitory where the single men and boys who are attending Lee College live. The building is four stories high and can adequately house more than 200 boys.

CONFLICT

By Reginald Spooner, Lee College Freshman

I am not the first who thus has stood in this lonely, barren place. Nor is this strife within me new. In some far distant decade there stood a barbarian here in this dismal desert. A young lad he was, as I, and he was not the first nor the last to stand here thus; nor am I. All mankind has stood here at some time, and what man among them has not felt, as I, the white hot fires burn within while the heart is wrapped in ice. These chilling blasts that whip about me made others shiver, too.

A strong man, I, but in this conflict my might avails me nothing. What is the strong arm and vise-like grip, the sturdy shield and keen-edged blade? In the struggle of the soul they are but children's hands beating against a great stone wall; they profit me not a whit. Oh, I would that in this conflict there were some enemy, however strong, whom I could grasp and wrestle; but my strength is only weakness when I would battle against this inner thing that would do sin. Passion tears my heart to shreds; my soul is sorely wounded. This ever-present, never-tiring urge to yield to sin would

grind my spirit into nothingness, and I find no place to rest, no way to win within myself. From this night, this darkness, I shall arise, when dawn is here, a man or a weakling. This is the one great battle of mankind; all others are subordinate to it.

Some before me have won. They have lived this long night through and proved themselves as men. What are those words?

Pastor Tells How Nazi Executioners Heeded Holy Name

MORGAN CITY, La.—(U.P.)—Four little French girls, four women, and four men stood in a meadow just outside of the little village of LaSalle in southern France.

Twelve tough-looking Nazi soldiers faced them, rifles at their shoulders. They grinned and waited for a word from their lieutenant that would send bullets crashing into their victims.

But that word was never uttered. One of the condemned—a slender, dark-haired young man—spoke a few words in German to the leader of the Nazi storm shooters.

"Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime."

My father before me won, and his father before him. Where did they find that other kind of strength that wins this conflict? It seems I can remember something my father used to quote—What was it?—Oh, my feeble brain! Have the cold and darkness so befogged it that I cannot think at all? Think, man, think!—Ah yes I have it:

"But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Yes, that is the way to win, for thus my father won. O God, send me Thy victory; I need Thee as did my father. Ah! The strength is come! I'll stand here as have my fathers and trust only in Him whom they trusted. The wind is cold; my soul is torn, and seared, and frozen, but I shall stand and fight, and wait. Oh, the darkness folds me more and more into her chilling bosom. The wind howls fiercely and voices call from far-off places. O my soul, thou art sore beset!

Behold, the Morning Star, first glimmering promise of the Light that is to vanquish this darkness. Now we know why He who stood beside me through the night is called by Thy name, for Thy silent light is glorious amid the darkness. O joy! O peace! Thou art here! The victory is won and my soul is quiet within me. I can live today a man, because I've fought this night as one! Yet I know the victory is not mine, but His that stood beside me.

To a man, the twelve seasoned Nazi veterans laid down their guns and refused to shoot.

Calls It Miracle

And that, to the Rev. Herbert Steinschneider, the slender man who uttered those life-saving words, was nothing less than a miracle, the first of two he said he saw in the dark days of the occupation of France by the Germans.

What did he say?

He said in German: "I am a Protestant minister. In the name of Jesus!"

(Continued on page 15)

... TESTIMONIES ...

God Rewards the Obedient

TESTIMONIUM, Ind.—I thank God for salvation I can feel. I praise God for His beloved Son, Christ Jesus who came to seek and to save the lost; He found me and brought me into this fold. It has been twenty-one years since I came into this way of business and peace. I found this perfect way of peace at an old-fashioned church in an old-fashioned meeting where God had some people with the old-fashioned faith. God sent a Holy messenger into the village where I was living at that time. I went to hear him and found his gospel messages to be what my soul was hungry for, so I gave my heart to him in that wonderful revival. He is still wonderful to my soul. He healed, sanctified, and filled me with the precious Holy Ghost with a Bible evidence of speaking in other tongues the Spirit gives the utterance. Oh, praise His matchless name!

About four years after God saved me, I felt the call of God to go out in evangelistic work for God. Many years He has spoken definitely to my heart as to His work. On October 6, 1941, I united with the Church of God in Phoenix, Indiana. I felt led of God to go to this little church as there was great need there and the Lord laid the burden of that work on my heart. I obeyed God and went to help those who were laboring in the church. Praise the Lord! He has blessed every effort I have made to build up the church. Souls have been saved, sanctified, and filled with the Holy Ghost. Many new members have been added to the church. God is still blessing, in spite of all the opposing powers of Satan. Many have been healed in the church services. I do praise God for the year 1948, for He has blessed me and I am nearer to Him today. This has been the best year of my life as a child of God. The Lord has given me souls in the kingdom of heaven. My husband has been among those who have given their hearts to God; also, two sons, and there are many others. It has been more blessed to suffer with God's people than to enjoy the pleasures of the world for a season. Jesus means more to

me than anything else in all the world. We want to do God's will and, of course, the enemy is always present to try to hinder, but I am encouraged to move forward and I know God will bring us out with victory and great success in the end. We have some real Christians in our little church here and some who are doing their best for the Lord and for the church. I live among these people and know how some of them live. Our daily life is our best testimony. The tree is known by its fruits. Thank God again and again for His manifold blessings and for the church. I thank God for my fellow workers together in His blessed vineyard. Pray much for us that every hindrance may be moved out of the way and the church will continue to move forward in the Lord. —Margaret L. Watson.

Turned to the Lord Through Sickness

ST. GEORGE, W. Va.—I am giving my testimony for God's great power to heal. I suffered for months with blood poisoning in my right hand, and it was nearly two years before I could use my hand. The doctors and nurse

said my hand had a dead bone in it, and that my hand would have to be amputated. At this time I was a member of the Methodist Church, but I had some neighbors who were Church of God members. I knew they trusted God for their healing, so I sent for them to come and pray for me. God healed my hand very quickly, and I can use it almost as well now as my other hand.

Later, I became sick again—this time with kidney poisoning. I doctored with five doctors and was in the hospital for a while. Nothing seemed to do any good. Again I sent for these people to come and pray for me, and again the Lord healed me. My sickness caused me to turn to the Lord and accept holiness and the Church of God doctrine which I realized was according to the Bible. I am now saved, sanctified, baptized with the Holy Ghost, and am a member of the Church of God for which I thank and praise God.—Stella C. Hebb.

Lifted from the Depths of Sin

MANGHAM, La.—I thank my Lord for what He has done for me. First of all, He lifted me up from the depths of sin, and He has healed me several times. On September 28, I took very sick. It seemed I was going to die. I sent for my pastor and his dear wife. They came and prayed for me, and the Lord healed me. Now I am well and happy.—Mrs. Pearl Boles.



Meet the Rev. D. C. Boatwright Family. Reverend Boatwright is overseer of Michigan.

North Carolina State Orphanage



Ray Drue won the ten dollar prize offered to the one making the best grades at the boy's home last year. His work in school was excellent.

Ray came to us from Wilmington, and, incidentally, he is a brother to Naomi Meyers, whose picture appeared in the *Echoes* last month. He is a fourth-grade student, ten years old and a very fine little gentleman.—C. H. Rochester, Superintendent, from *North Carolina Echoes*.

MISSIONS AND ORPHANAGE Fourth Quarter Report, 1948

	Missions	Orphanage
Alabama	\$2,039.28	\$1,552.16
Arizona	161.42	147.25
Arkansas	314.89	291.39
California	650.54	507.39
Canada	1,859.95	3.72
Colorado	20.83	29.62
Connecticut	6.26	8.74
Delaware	46.11	41.67
Dist. of Columbia	41.06	29.23
Florida	6,025.88	1,900.47
Georgia	2,759.85	1,491.16
Idaho	38.78	53.86
Illinois	723.94	694.75
Indiana	310.91	362.25
Iowa	124.69	153.44
Kansas	121.07	129.56
Kentucky	827.78	804.80
Louisiana	316.71	344.53
Maine	45.70	66.97
Maryland	299.04	299.19
Massachusetts	18.39	7.81
Michigan	455.59	291.43
Minnesota	6.46	8.67
Mississippi	410.36	631.57

Missouri	424.72	330.11
Montana	90.91	56.44
Nebraska	13.21	26.47
New Jersey	96.73	38.46
New Mexico	276.78	120.95
New York	23.31	2.61
North Carolina	3,079.41	2,570.97
North Dakota	707.68	258.72
Ohio	999.99	752.06
Oklahoma	181.10	296.40
Oregon	23.89	33.22
Pennsylvania	410.53	429.16
South Carolina	2,908.32	2,028.23
South Dakota	153.50	314.65
Tennessee	1,685.14	1,432.19
Texas	823.19	726.93
Utah		4.15
Virginia	826.13	454.20
Washington	76.78	87.91
West Virginia	1,310.32	1,284.21
Wisconsin	10.07	6.53
Wyoming	3.00	7.61
Miscellaneous	400.00	
Hawaii		19.36

\$32,150.20 \$21,133.17

"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world," James 1:27.

CORRECTION

Through an oversight, more than half of the churches in Oklahoma were omitted in the list published in the *Evangel* of January 22, and we are printing the entire list of Oklahoma churches and their contributions again.

Church and Membership

	Amount Received
Ada, 46	\$ 55.00
Anadarko, 80	80.00
Binger, 30	31.00
Chickasha, 32	
Double Springs, 16	21.50
Enid, 26	20.00
Faxon, 21	
Fort Towson, 7	
Geromine, 8	55.00
Guthrie, 53	20.00
Hugo, 34	18.00
Johnson, 20	78.00
Lawton, 85	44.00
Lindsay, 43	35.00
Maud, 39	18.00
Maysville, 17	
Moors Chapel, 20	
Murphy, 66	48.65
Muskogee, 31	23.00
Norman, 22	75.00
Oklahoma City, 84	18.00
Perry, 34	
Pine Ridge, 13	21.00
Purcell, 19	48.00
Ravalia, 63	44.00
Seminole, 45	108.94
Shawnee, 82	45.00
Tulsa, 47	23.00
Wagoner, 41	14.00
Wapanuka, 12	12.00
Wright Station, 11	1.00
By State Overseer	
TOTAL, 1,147	\$964.92

TESTIMONIES

God Is Family Physician

PLYMOUTH, N. C.—I praise and glorify the Lord for His wonderful healing power. The Lord has healed in my home many times. Every member in my home has been sick; we had prayers for them and they were healed. I truly want to thank Him for saving my soul from sin, sanctifying me through His blood, and baptizing me with the precious Holy Ghost. I truly thank God for the Church of God that we have here at Plymouth.—Dennie Jefferson.

The Power of God unto Salvation

GULF HAMMOCK, Fla.—I thank God for His loving-kindness and tender mercies. He saved, sanctified, and baptized me with heaven's Holy Ghost, and I was added to the great Church of God. I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth. I thank God for the way He blessed me last summer when Brother L. G. Rouse was in Williston, Fla. I believe I had cancer. I had so much pain in my back and

left side. Thank God, when Brother Rouse prayed for me I began to amend, and now I never feel any symptoms of it. Praise our God! I have a little sore on my face. It is beginning to burn and hurt a little, but I am trusting God. Please pray a special prayer for me.—Mrs. M. E. Baldree.

Able to Work After Prayer

WILLIAMSTON, N. C.—I praise my Lord and King. I sent in a request for prayer two weeks ago, and the other night at church, I was prayed for and the Lord healed me. My left side was in a serious condition. I can not tell just how it felt, but I could not do anything. Since being prayed for I have been able to work. I truly praise the Lord for it all. Pray for me to stand true and do God's will at any cost. We have begun services here in the prison camp. Pray that God will give us souls there.—Sister Ward.

Prayer Changes Things

TOLEDO, Ohio—I praise the Lord Jesus Christ for what he has done for me. I sent in a request for prayer

for my healing of tuberculosis, and for my children and home to be restored to me. I was released from the B. hospital May 29. The Lord opened the way for us to get an apartment June 28. Thank the Lord and praise His holy name for answering prayer. My children are with me. My husband left us while I was ill in the hospital. He refuses to see or write the children or me—will not even come see our new grandchild and will not send us enough money to manage although he has a very good job. My son sixteen years old is in the last year in high school. God mercifully gave him an opportunity to try for a college scholarship. He has one chance in two and a half million seniors, but we believe our God is almighty and has all power in heaven and earth. There is nothing He cannot do. If it is God's will for my son to become a doctor, He will make him a winner. My son is saved, too, but he does not have the Baptism. He carries five subjects in school toward his medical career and works after school to help support his sister and me. He needs the scholarship very much to go on to college as we can't afford it. We believe prayer changes things and want the precious will of God done in our lives, so we ask for the prayers of every praying saint, that God will lead and put on my son's heart the essay which will make him the winner. Also pray that our Lord Jesus will save our husband and father and send him home to us. My son and both are seeking the Holy Ghost. I want to live for Him who died for me. Praise His holy name! May God bless your work in His name for Jesus' sake. —Cathalene Pratt.

I'm sure this mother has our prayers. God bless that boy and cause him to succeed.—J. D. B.

Wonderful to Feel His Sweet Presence

LEXSON, Tenn.—I thank God tonight for His everlasting love. It never fails. I thank Him for the privilege to pray for my loved ones and friends. When I served sin I didn't know what to do to help them in times of trouble and distress. Oh, my heart is full of joy when I think how God keeps His children. Every day grows brighter as I look up to Jesus. I have a greater desire to serve God every day I live. So wonderful to feel His sweet presence with us. I need a closer walk with God, and I am seeking Him with

all my heart. Pray for me.—Mrs. E. B. Harvey.

He Never Fails Us

MONROE, La.—I praise God for His goodness to us. He saved my husband, children, and me, and filled us with the blessed Holy Ghost. He has healed us many times. About two weeks ago, my baby had stomach trouble. We asked God to heal him, and he was healed instantly. I did not testify of it and give God the glory like I should have, and he became sick again. This time I give Him all the praise for His healing power. We can not praise Him enough for His goodness to us. Although we may fail Him often, He never fails us. Praise His name! Pray for us and for our unsaved loved ones. —Mrs. A. S. Thornton.

Yes, God Still Performs Miracles!

PISGAH, Ala.—Does God still heal? Yes, praise His sweet Holy Name, He is just the same yesterday, today and forever! I have a testimony of healing in my own home. On December 24, 1947, my only grandson was born, a perfectly healthy boy except for his eyes. If he had any eyeballs I could not see them. Rev. S. C. Lambert came in and we prayed and, praise God, the baby's eyes are as beautiful as any I have ever seen! Oh, how real God is if we would only humble ourselves. On November 19, 1948, this baby became seriously ill. It seemed to be pneumonia. We called God's people in to pray, and God gloriously healed him. It is so wonderful to know we have a precious Saviour that can come on the scene and do such marvelous things for us. I just can't think of words to praise Him enough for what He means to me.—Mrs. John Milligan.

OBITUARIES

EILAND

Brother C. B. Eiland, age fifty-three and one of the oldest members of the Church of God at Sebring, Florida, was injured by a falling tree on his ranch December 13, 1948. He went to be with Jesus December 24. The funeral was conducted by Rev. R. E. Drymon and Rev. J. J. Dees, with Rev. (Vep) Ellis in charge of the music. Brother Eiland was faithful to God and his church and was loved by all who knew him.—J. L. Murdock, Clerk.

WALTON

Mrs. Mattie Burge Walton, born May 15, 1886, slipped away to be with Jesus her Redeemer on December 9, 1948, at the age of sixty-two years. She was a member of the Church of God for the past eighteen years. The funeral service was conducted by her pastor, Rev. Raymond Taylor, assisted by a former pastor, Rev. F. T. Dismukes. We know our loss is heaven's gain.—A daughter, Mrs. O. O. Philen.

HIGGENBOTHAM

Mr. William Franklin Higgenbotham suffered a heart attack Tuesday, December 21, and died instantly. He was buried at Elzy, Mississippi, with the Rev. W. F. Sharp, pastor, and Rev. Flenoy Clark conducting the funeral services. He was a good and faithful member of the Church of God at Thorn.—His sister, Mrs. J. U. Nabors.

FAY

Mrs. Lena Fay died December 31, 1948, in Louisville, Ky. She was eighty-three years old and trusted God for her body forty years. She loved God and His Church above everything, and said she was ready to go. We all loved her and will miss her.—Mrs. W. H. Wilson, Louisville, Ky.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

PRAY FOR:

My boy to be released from service; me and my home.—Leona Arrowood, Charlotte, N. C.

God to heal me of leakage of the heart; me to be saved; my family.—Arlie Fish, Ravenscroft, Tenn.

Hubert Durham to be healed and for him and his wife to receive the Holy Ghost; God to save my husband and boys and for me to receive the Holy Ghost.—A Sister, Demorest, Ga.

My brother to be saved; a young man in prison; a young woman to be saved; my husband to be saved.—Mrs. M. Cothurn, Mesa, Ariz.

My son to be saved.—Mrs. Seelay Mason.

The healing of my body.—John N. Yost, Middlebourne, W. Va.

My mother and my family.—Roxie Morris, Ferrellsburg, W. Va.

Thelma Coyer who is to undergo an operation.—Sister B. Sullivan.

A prisoner.—Mrs. Thelma Telford, Anniston, Ala.

Me to be healed and drawn closer to the Lord; my children; our home.—Mrs. V. R. Merchant, Flora, Miss.

Me to be healed; my father to be healed of kidney trouble; my mother; my granddaughter who is in the hospital with polio.—Mrs. Lettie McDowell, Troy, Tenn.

The healing of my body; my husband's body and soul.—Mrs. B. G. McLin, Plant City, Fla.

The healing of my body.—Mrs. W. C. Johnson, Coats, N. C.

A young man to be saved and filled with the Holy Ghost; God to make a way for me.—A Reader.

The *Millennium* Is the Age to Come

By W. L. FORD
Overseer, Colored Work

Eph. 2:7, "That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus."

INTRODUCTION

This will be the last dispensation or age before the eternal state of perfection, when God shall again be all and in all as He was, before rebellion started on the earth. God Himself, with Jesus Christ and the Holy Ghost, will set up a divine government on earth over all nations.

**THE DAY OF THE LORD
(MILLENNIUM)**

The day of the Lord will come after the seven years of great tribulation. Preceding the coming of this day, the battle of Armageddon is fought. Rev. 19. The righteous and wicked will have war. Christ will be the chief commander for the righteous and the devil will be the chief commander for the wicked. This war will soon end, and Christ with His righteous army will win the war. Then the angel standing in the sun will call to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven to come to the great supper of God and eat the flesh of the kings, captains, mighty men, horses and they that sat upon them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, small and great. My God, what a day! Rev. 19; 20:1-10; Isa. 2:12; 13:6-9; Zech. 12:8-11; Mal. 3:17; 2 Peter 3:10.

THE DISPENSATION OF THE FULL- NESS OF TIME

This is called the seventh dispensation of man, the fullness of time. A great generation is effected (Matt. 19: 28; Eph. 1:10) in which the restoration of all things is complete. Acts 3: 20, 21. The consolation of Israel is realized, and in Jerusalem shall be redemption, Luke 2:25, 38.

THE GOVERNMENT

A theocratic form of government will be established, and God will reign through Christ Jesus. During His thousand years' reign there will be peace on earth and good will toward all men. *Psa. 89:35-37; Dan. 2:44, 45; Matt. 25:31-36; Rev. 11:15; 20:1-10.*

THE SEAT OF THIS GOVERNMENT

Rebuilt and restored to a greater glory than ever before, Jerusalem will



W. L. Ford

be the world's capital and the center of worship forever. Psa. 48:8; Isa. 2: 2-4; Zech. 8:3, 23; 14:1-21; Acts 15:1-18; Ezek. 34:1-35.

THE SUBJECTS OF THE KINGDOM
WILL BE ALL NATIONS

Yes, it will take all nations to make up this kingdom on earth. Various classes may be excluded, but not nations. This will be a glorious time here on earth for God's people. There will be peace on earth everywhere. Dan. 7:13, 14:18; Micah 4:1-3; Zech. 9:10; 14:1-21; Isa. 9:6, 7; Rev. 11:15.

**WILL THERE BE LAWS FOR THE
MILLENNIUM AGE TO GOVERN
OUR STATES, COUNTIES, AND
CITIES AS WE HAVE
TODAY?**

Yes, but only the laws of God (no man-made law), according to what we gather from the Bible. There will be some sinners, but the righteous environment will possibly cause the sinners to keep the holy law of God outwardly, even though they may rebel in their hearts. After the one-thousand-year reign of peace on earth has expired, the devil will be loose for a little season; then the sinners will have another chance to rebel openly again. Oh, my dearly beloved, that one thousand years' reign of peace on earth with the Lord will be indeed wonderful. Isa. 2:2-4; 11:2-4; 16:5; 65:20; Psa. 2:6-9; 1 Cor. 15:24-28; Zech. 14:16-21.

WHO WILL EXECUTE THE LAWS IN THE MILLENNIUM AGE?

The Lord Jesus will be the Chief

President or Ruler, not only of the U.S.A., but of the whole world. Jesus will be Lord of lords and King of kings. Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth! The glorified saints will serve as kings and priests in the execution of the laws of God on earth. Isa. 35:8 and Acts 2:4 will be realized and enjoyed more fully at this time. Salvation and healing will be more fully enjoyed. Isa. 32:1-5; Matt. 8:17; Psa. 105:37; 107:20.

**SATAN WILL BE BOUND AND THERE
WILL BE NO TEMPTER**

There will be no more taxation. We will keep up a large army and navy, etc. The people shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruninghooks. **THEY SHALL STUDY WAR NO MORE.** There will be peace on earth and good will toward all men. Yes, there will be a universal peace. The poorest man can own a home then. Isa. 2:4; Micah 4:3, 4; Isa. 65:25.

THE FINANCIAL SYSTEM
(GOD'S PLAN, Mal 3:7-10)

Before the Law—Gen. 14:20; 28:22
Under the Law—Lev. 27:30-33

After the Law—Matt. 23:23; Rom. 7:12; 1 Cor. 16:1-3; Heb. 7.

There will be no money confusion, no waste of money for unrighteousness, no robbing. Thank God, all will be well. Full justice will be given to men, yes, justice to all, thank God. The law will be enforced to the letter then. We should be glad to pray, "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

HUMAN LIFE WILL BE PROLONGED

Yes, the people will again live long and happy lives on earth at this time. Isa. 65:21; Zech 8:4; Luke 1:33. There will be no more war or peace in the animal kingdom as before the fall of man. Isa. 11:6-8; 65:17-25; Rom. 8:18-23.

THE LIGHT OF THE SUN

The light of the sun will be increased seven times brighter and the moon will be as the light of the sun today. Isa. 30:26; 60:18-22. The land will be restored with little exception such as wicked Babylon, Isa. 34:2; 17-22. Full restoration will take place after the Millennium, after the Lord has received its baptism of fire. Love and righteousness will prevail.

CONCLUSION

God will send His Son Jesus Christ for your soul
(Continued on page 15)

HOW TO BE HAPPY AND LIVE A CHRISTIAN LIFE

(Continued from page 4)

Deacon of some church who cursed the other men that made no claims of following Christ. It is no wonder to me that a deacon like that has no convincing testimony for Christ. Some church members attempt to live a double life; that is, live like Satan on the week days, then sing, "Jesus paid for all," and act sanctimoniously on Sunday. A person like that can't be happy. He is too burdened down with hypocrisy. There are too many who profess much and possess little.

A businessman remarked to me a few days ago that it had been ten years since a soul had been led to Christ in his church. Think of it! Ten years and not one soul accepting the Lord Jesus Christ in that church. This businessman informed me he was working and hoping for a revival this year. Let us join this attorney in prayer that the Lord will give his cold, formal church, as well as many others, a great spiritual awakening in 1949.

To really be a successful Christian we must have a forgiving spirit. To those who have not been too successful in learning how to forgive, this friendly advice may be worth your consideration. Collect all the mean things people have done to you or said about you in 1948. Stack them all up, one by one. Pull out the old grudge from your own heart, then the malice, will and hatred. Stack those up, all. Then step back and view the accumulation. Now, really, don't you feel free and light in your soul? Take one and look and turn your back on it all, and simply walk off and leave it. Life is too short to be burdened down with such things. If you will follow this suggestion, you will experience Christian success you have never known before. "But, Brother Campbell, you have an idea what that person has done to me and said about me." That's true. But GOD knows. Furthermore, our relationship with God depends on our willingness to forgive. Matt. 6:15, "But ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." In this ever-changing world it is great to have child-like faith in the never-changing God. God's ability to keep you happy and your soul contented is sufficient for

PASTOR TELLS HOW NAZI EXECUTIONERS HEEDED HOLY NAME

(Continued from page 10)

Christ and the gospel, I protest the inhuman slaying of innocent women and children."

"I had not the slightest idea that those words would stay the hands of the Nazi soldiers," he said. "I had no thought that they would heed a plea in the name of Christ."

"But they did, and that's the miracle."

Another "Miracle"

The second miracle, he said, occurred a few minutes after the first. As the twelve reprieved sat around in a circle in the meadow, there came a fusillade of shots from two different directions.

They were caught between two firing lines. French resistance forces had circled around and were shooting at them, taking them for Nazis. The Germans who were about to be surrounded were shooting across them at the French troops.

One of the little band of survivors was wounded seriously and five others suffered minor wounds.

All Twelve Escape

About that time, German reinforcements arrived and the fighting broke out in earnest. During the five-hour battle, the twelve crawled into a near by wooded area and escaped.

Today, Steinschneider is using his "two miracles" in his preaching at the Atkinson Memorial Presbyterian Church in Morgan City.

The young minister is in the United States for three years to get his doctor of divinity degree at Princeton. He plans to serve as pastor of the Morgan City church until some time next month. Then he is going on to Princeton.

He knows German because he was Vienna-born. Steinschneider was on a religious call to one of the 300 families in his care in LaSalle, France, his first pastorate, when the Nazis stormed in. They put the whole family under arrest, including the visiting clergyman. They didn't know he was a minister—they didn't ask. That's how he got before the firing squad in the first place.

THE MILLENIUM IS THE AGE...

(Continued from page 14)

with the mighty angels and all the resurrected and glorified saints from heaven to the old earth to put down

all rebellions in the earth, and bring all rebels into judgment. The kingdom of our Lord will be established over the earth; and after the thousand years is expired, Satan will be loosed for a season. The great white throne judgment takes place. The world catches on fire. Yes, the old world will receive its baptism of fire. After the great regeneration the new heaven and new earth appear and the Golden Age comes in. Amen!—From Church of God Gospel Herald.

A YIELDED LIFE TO GOD

(Continued from page 7)

would pay us greatly to decide definitely in our hearts to consecrate our lives fully and completely to the whole will and plan of an all wise God. God may let us go on for a while in His permissive will, but unless we make a complete surrender to Him, He will allow us to awake and find ourselves slipping, slipping, and sliding out of His will completely—and to backslide with the idea of finding favor with Him again is a very foolish risk to run, as was Saul's case, who at one time had the favors of God upon His life, but due to his lack of obedience died without the favor or mercy of the Almighty.

MAKE THEM ONE—THROUGH THY TRUTH—THY WORD IS TRUTH

John E. Douglas, State Overseer

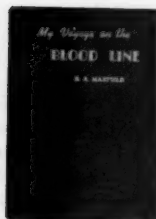
In the seventeenth chapter of St. John's Gospel we have the great high-priestly prayer of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is the prayer for the sanctification and unity of all believers for all time. He prayed for the Father to sanctify them through the Truth, which is the Word of God, that they might be one. No doubt by this time you have been reading in the Pentecostal periodicals about the great constitutional Pentecostal convention held in Des Moines, Iowa, October 26-28. It was made very clear in this convention that there was no intention or desire to create a "super church," which I think is very good. We cannot put different organizations together and organize them into unity, but real Bible unity comes through blood-washed hearts that are willing to be obedient to all the Truth. If we all, as different Pentecostal movements, are willing to accept all the Bible, with the New Testament as our only rule for government and discipline, and earnestly and prayerfully seek God for guidance, what is there that could keep us apart?—Grand Canyon State News.

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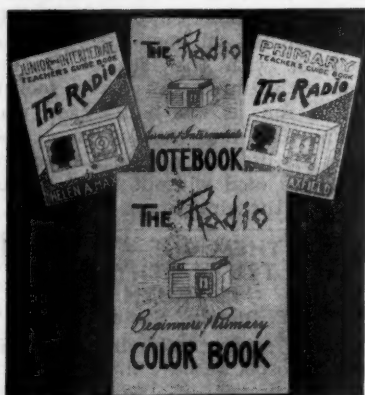
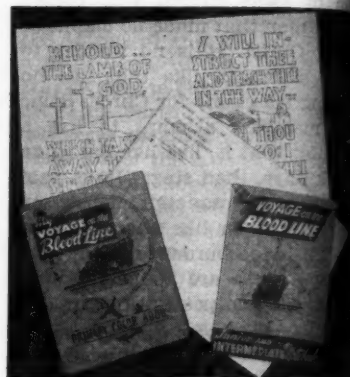
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